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SOURCE Textile.

TYPES OF TEXTILE FIBER PRODUCED IN RUMANIA

Domestic production of textile fiber was discussed at a meeting of the Rumanian Scientific and Technical Society (AST) held in Bucharest, 27 to 30 May 1951. Engineer S. Radulescu spoke on "Replacing Imported Raw Material With Domestic Supply." He divided the discussion into three parts: natural vegetable fibers, artificial vegetable fibers, and animal fibers.

Natural vegetable fibers raised in Rumania include cotton, hemp, and flax. The Five-Year Plan calls for five times as much production of cotton and hemp in 1955 as in 1950. Experiments are now in progress on the adaptation of Soviet varieties 1928, Odessa 1, and 1306. Domestic cotton is not of high quality. Chief defects are shortness of staple (24 to 25 millimeters), lack of uniformity of staple (20 to 30 millimeters), and failure to mature in the growing season. Domestic fiber has great resistance, is white in color, and has a silky texture. With proper care 35 to 40 percent may be woven into number 40 thread.

Local, Carmagnola, and Fleischman varieties of hemp are raised. The local variety constitutes 85 percent of the total. In general, quality and yield are poor. The cultivation of acclimatized Carmagnola must be extended, and Soviet varieties with greater yield must be sought. New Soviet varieties of flax must be adopted, and new methods found to improve present crops.

Artificial vegetable fiber includes cellulose fiber, viscose, and synthetic silk. The Five-Year Plan calls for 3.9 times as much artificial silk and 34 times as much cellulose fiber in 1955 as in 1950.

Natural animal fiber raised in Rumania includes wool, angora, natural silk, and goat and ox hair. Defects of domestic wool are short fibers of unequal length and thickness, and many vegetable impurities. The wool from some regions is very dry, tangled, and dirty.

By the end of 1955, the production of cocoons will be 2.1 times as great as in 1950. As a result, the production of natural silk thread will increase 274.7 percent in the same period.

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